

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 /085 W
----- 113603

R 120919Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9422

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 0850

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ECIN, XY, ML, UV

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO CEAO CHIEFS OF STATE COMMUNIQUE

REF: NIAMEY 1344

1. FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF CEAO CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING
IN NIAMEY HAS BEEN BADLY RECEIVED IN UPPER VOLTA.
BOTH OFFICIAL "NOTRE COMBAT" AND INDEPENDENT "L'OBSERVATEUR"
OF APRIL 10 CARRIED EDITORIALS CASTIGATING CEAO CHIEFS
OF STATE FOR SINGLING OUT UPPER VOLTA ON TREATMENT OF
MALIANS EMPLOYED AT CEAO HEADQUARTERS WHILE REMAINING
SILENT ON MALIAN OCCUPATION OF VOLTAN TERRITORY.

2. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA WAS REPORTEDLY FURIOUS WHEN HE
RETURNED FROM NIAMEY. ACCORDING TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR BLANC
LAMIZANA'S ANGER WAS PARTICULARLY DIRECTED AT
PRESIDENT SENGHOR WHO ALLEGEDLY DRAFTED THE PART OF
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THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE DEALING WITH MALIAN EMPLOYEES AT

CEAO HEADQUARTERS.

3. GENERAL IMPRESSION HERE IS THAT SENGHOR AND OTHER CHIEFS OF STATE SACRIFICED UPPER VOLTA'S INTERESTS IN ORDER TO KEEP MALI IN CEAO. RUMORS HAVE THAT LAMIZANA WAS THREATENED WITH REMOVAL OF CEAO HEADQUARTERS FROM OUAGADOUGOU UNLESS HE WENT ALONG WITH MALAIN INSISTENCE THAT SOME MENTION BE MADE IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF TREATMENT OF MALIAN FUNCTIONARIES AT CEAO HEADQUARTERS.

4. NEEDLESS TO SAY, PRESIDENT LAMIZANA'S PRESTIGE HERE HAS SUNK TO NEW LOW AS RESULT OF CEAO SUMMIT MEETING. THOSE AMONG HIS ENTOURAGE WHO ADVISED AGAINST PARTICIPATION AT SUMMIT MEETING ARE MORE THAN EVER CONVINCED THAT COMPROMISE AND MODERATION WILL GET UPPER VOLTA NOWHERE. THOSE WHO WERE FOR PARTICIPATION FEEL THAT LAMIZANA PLAYED HIS CARDS VERY BADLY AND ALLOWED HIS COLLEAGUES TO PLACE HIM IN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION.
GRAHAM

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